

Applicant: Norman W. Gavin  
For: SEPTIC SYSTEM TANK  
Attorney Docket No.: GNW382  
Preliminary Amendment

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 (Canceled)

Claim 7 (Currently amended): A molded in one piece plastic fluid distribution tank adapted for subterranean burial, having a top, a closed and a bottom and a plurality of vertical outer walls forming with the bottom, an open top fluid container, comprising:

a first vertical outer wall of said plurality of vertical outer walls having a top and a bottom and comprising a first planar outer surface,

a plurality of grooved annular circuits molded on in said first planar outer surface of said first vertical outer wall, of equal diameter, extending in vertical overlapping sequence, the centers of the annular circuits being vertically spaced from one another, said first vertical outer wall being continuous across said grooved annular circuits so that liquid cannot pass through said first vertical outer wall at the grooves, said grooved annular circuits formed on the first wall so that a hole can be made through the first wall at any height of a plurality of heights between the top and the bottom of the first wall by removing the portion of the first wall that is circumscribed by the circuit at the desired height, a first groove of said grooved annular circuits having a top at said

first planar outer surface, and a first depth from said first planar outer surface to a first apex in said first vertical outer wall, a first side of a said first groove of the plurality of grooved annular circuits forming a V in cross section with a second side of said first groove, said second side extending from said first planar outer surface to said first apex, said first side extending from said first planar outer surface to said first apex, sloping continuously toward said first apex, deviating at least once between said first planar outer surface and said first apex (248, 256) from being a straight line at at least two different angles from a line perpendicular to the depth of the groove for guiding cutting in the groove past intersection of said first groove with a second groove of said plurality of grooved annular circuits.

Claim 8 (Original): The tank of claim 7 wherein said first side of said first groove comprises the outer diameter of the circuit for guiding cutting in the groove past intersection of said first groove with said second groove.

Claim 9 (Original): The tank of claim 7 wherein said first side and the second side of said first groove slope asymmetrically in cross section for guiding cutting in said first groove past intersection of said first groove with said second groove.

Claim 10 (Original): The tank of claim 7, further comprising:

a plate, molded in one piece with said tank, mounted on the bottom of said tank by a living hinge configured for vertical movement of said plate.

Claim 11 (Canceled)

Claim 12 (Currently amended): A plastic fluid distribution tank adapted for subterranean burial, having a top, a closed and a bottom, and a plurality of vertical outer walls forming with the bottom, an open top fluid container, comprising:

a first vertical outer wall of said plurality of vertical outer walls having a top and a bottom and comprising a first planar outer surface,

a plurality of grooved circuits molded in one piece with said tank in said first planar outer surface of on said first vertical outer wall, extending in vertical overlapping sequence, the centers of the circuits being vertically spaced from one another, said first vertical outer wall being continuous across said grooved annular circuits so that liquid cannot pass through the first wall at the grooves, said grooved annular circuits formed on the first wall so that a hole can be made through the first wall at any height of a plurality of heights between the top and the bottom of the first wall by removing the portion of the first wall that is circumscribed by the circuit at the desired height, a first groove of said grooved annular circuits having a top at said first planar outer surface, and a first depth from said first planar outer surface to a first apex in the first vertical wall, a first side of said first groove of the plurality of grooved annular circuits forming a V in cross section with a second side of said first groove, said second side extending from said first planar outer surface to said first apex, said first side extending from said first planar outer surface to said first apex, sloping continuously toward said first apex, deviating at least once between said first planar outer surface and said first apex (248, 256) from being a straight line.

Claims 13 and 14 (Canceled)

Claim 15 (Currently amended): The tank of claim 12, further comprising:

a second groove of said plurality of grooved circuits, intersecting with said first groove, opposite sides of a first said second groove of the plurality of grooved circuits extending each from said first planar outer surface in a second V in cross section a second depth from said first planar surface to a second apex in said first wall, sloping asymmetrically in cross section for guiding cutting in said first groove past intersection of said first groove with another groove of

the plurality of grooved circuits.

**Claim 16 (Canceled)**

**Claim 17 (New):** The tank of claim 15 wherein the second depth is the same magnitude as the first depth.

**Claim 18 (New):** A plastic fluid distribution tank adapted for subterranean burial, having a top, a closed bottom, and a plurality of vertical walls forming with the bottom, an open top fluid container, comprising:

a first vertical wall of said plurality of vertical walls having a top and a bottom and comprising a first planar surface,

a plurality of grooved circuits molded in one piece with said tank in said first planar surface of said first vertical wall, extending in vertical overlapping sequence, the centers of the circuits being vertically spaced from one another, said first vertical wall being continuous across said grooved annular circuits so that liquid cannot pass through said first wall at the grooves, said grooved annular circuits, formed on the wall so that a hole can be made through the wall at any height of a plurality of heights between the top and the bottom of the wall by removing the portion of the wall that is circumscribed by the circuit at the desired height, a first groove of said plurality of grooved annular circuits having a top at said first planar surface, and a first depth from said first planar surface to a first apex in said first wall, a first side of said first groove forming a V in cross section with a second side of said first groove, said second side extending from said first planar surface to said first apex, said first side extending from said first planar surface to said first apex asymmetrical in cross section with said second side.

**Claim 19 (New):** The tank of claim 18, further comprising:

a second groove of said plurality of grooved circuits, intersecting with said first groove,

opposite sides of said second groove extending from said first planar surface in a second V in cross section a second depth each from said first planar surface to a second apex in said first wall, one of said opposite sides deviating from a straight line between said first planar surface and said second apex.

Claim 20 (New): The tank of claim 19 wherein the second depth is the same magnitude as the first depth.

Claim 21 (New): The tank of claim 7 further comprising:

opposite sides of said second groove of the plurality of grooved circuits extending from said first planar outer surface in a second V in cross section a second depth each from said first planar outer surface to a second apex in said first vertical outer wall, sloping asymmetrically in cross section, the second depth being the same magnitude as the first depth.